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Testimony: **Raised Bill No 293 An Act Concerning
Recommendations of the School Nurse Advisory Council
March 2, 2016
Public Health Committee**

Good Morning: Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee.

I want to thank-you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Connecticut Nurses' Association (CNA). I am Mary Jane Williams Ph.D., RN current chairperson of Government Relations Committee for the Connecticut Nurses Association. I speak in support of **Raised Bill No 293 An Act Concerning Recommendations of the School Nurse Advisory Council.**

The intent of this testimony is to support the recommendations of the School Nurse Advisory Council. The proposed legislation stresses the importance of Orientation to the Role of the School Nurse as a required method to prepare the new School Nurse for the evolving role in an increasing complex school setting, with students who present with extremely diverse needs. School Nursing is a growing specialty. New School

Nurses are expected to respond to and advocate for students, many times without working knowledge of the educational systems.

With the increase in specialization a reciprocal growing need for orientation specific to educational settings is essential to their preparation and the safety of the students that are under their care in the educational settings.

Therefore, I ask you to **support Raised Bill No 293 An Act Concerning Recommendations of the School Nurse Advisory Council**. It will provide essential educational services to newly employed School Nurses and create a safe environment for our children.

Thank you

Mary Jane M. Williams PhD., RN

Chair, Government Relation, Connecticut Nurses Association

Professor Emeritus Central Connecticut State University